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Guide to Materials for the History of the United States in the Principal Archives of Mexico. By Henry E. Bolton, professor of American history, University of California. (Washington: Carnegie Institution of Washington, 1913. 553 p. \$3.50)

It is to be hoped that the lamentable state of affairs in Mexico will not cause the disarrangement or the destruction of any of her archives, for the publication of this guide has unfortunately been delayed until conditions in Mexico render it exceedingly difficult for an investigator to profit by the aid which it furnishes. Like some other volumes in the useful series of guides to foreign archives issued by the Carnegie Institution, this guide is more than a description of the character and contents of the archives in question: it is less than a calendar of the documents relating to American history which were found by the author in the principal archives of Mexico.

Whether, on the face of the returns, one grants that this guide is modelled upon the wisest plan which might have been devised or not, the reviewer willingly records that Professor Bolton has performed his arduous task with fidelity and skill. In the appendix of this guide are printed some useful lists of important civil and ecclesiastical officials of Mexico. The guide contains some instructive historical notes: among them is a brief sketch of the archival establishment in Mexico City which is now styled the general archive of the nation. It also contains a contribution to the history of that important administrative area in North Mexico known as the *Provincias Internas*. Throughout the volume are found statements which suggest the difficulties that confronted the author in his long-sustained quest.

The reports on the contents of each important archival repository are preceded by remarks which furnish helpful information in regard to the best mode of gaining access to the respective archives. Geographically, the archives which were examined fall into two classes: the archives in the City of Mexico, and those archives outside of that city. Most important of the archives examined in Mexico City were the general archives of the nation and the archives of the various departments of state. Outside of the capital city the civil and the ecclesiastical archives of Guadalajara, Querétaro, Zacatecas, San Luis Potosí, and Durango were examined, as well as the archives in the important state capitals and border towns in North Mexico. The archives in the region south of Mexico City were not touched. In other words, the archives examined were those which presumably contained the most material for the history of the present United States.

Professor Bolton faithfully records some negative results as well as positive results. Investigators who are interested in the history of the

southwestern portion of the United States and students of the history of Mexico will especially regret the failure to find the lost archives of the commandancy-general of the interior provinces. Among the numberless documents mentioned in the guide are a great many which are primarily concerned with the southwestern portion of the present United States: Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, and California. These documents, which for the most part have not been used by historical investigators, deal with such subjects as voyages, explorations, missions, colonization, and administration, both civil and ecclesiastical. There are many references to documents which concern the relations between the United States and Mexico: the demarcation of the boundary line between these two countries, the annexation of Texas to the United States, the war between Mexico and the United States, and French intervention in Mexico. Incidentally this guide also mentions some collections of documents which deal primarily with certain parts of the history of Mexico, e. g., the war for independence, 1810-1821. There are also included some incidental references to material which concerns the diplomatic relations between Mexico and certain states of South America as well as of Europe. A good index makes readily accessible specific suggestions as to the content of designated *legajos* in various archives of Mexico: thus the new material for the history of America which the industrious author evaluated as most important while handling thousands upon thousands of musty documents may be located. It is obvious that Professor Bolton conscientiously strove to make this volume a genuine guide to those who would exploit the historic riches in the archives of Mexico.

WILLIAM SPENCE ROBERTSON

The United States and Mexico, 1821-1848. A History of the Relations between the Two Countries from the Independence of Mexico to the Close of the War with the United States. By George Lockhart Rives. In two volumes. (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1913. 720; 726 p. \$8.00 net)

For the purpose of this review these dignified volumes may be considered under four topics: (1) the political history of Mexico, 1821-1848; (2) the revolution and subsequent annexation of Texas; (3) the diplomatic history of the period; and (4) the political and military history of the Mexican War. Source material for all except the first of these topics has been published in unusual fullness in numerous congressional documents, and thanks to the Mexican habit of including liberal documentary appendices in their histories this has been considerably supplemented from the other side; Reeves and Adams have traced the intricate diplomacy of the period through the archives of the United States, England (with a glimpse into France), and the republic of